

Guy's Hospital, and principally resided there during the twenty years he held it. He did much for the advancement of that institution, and of the Medical School connected with it, and his work was highly appreciated there.

Previous to his resignation of the treasurership of Guy's Hospital in 1876, Mr. Turner's health had already begun to fail, and it continued to do so, very gradually, until on April 9, 1883, his energetic and useful life came to an end.

Mr. Turner was one of the earliest Fellows of the Royal Astronomical Society, and took much interest in that science. Though he made no important contribution to this or other branches of science, he had many friends among those engaged in them. Among the most distinguished of whom was Sir George Airy, late Astronomer Royal, who had been his college tutor.

Amongst other subjects, Mr. Turner devoted much time to the study of Hebrew, and published a Metrical Version of the Book of Psalms, from the original text.

In 1835 he married Mary Anne, daughter of the Rev. Charles Benjamin Charlewood, of Oak Hill, near Cheadle, in Staffordshire, the issue of the marriage being three sons and four daughters, four of whom are still living.

Mr. Turner was elected a Fellow of the Society on May 11, 1832.

FRANCIS DIEDRICH WACKERBARTH was born in London on January 30, 1813. He was descended from an old German family whose patrimonial estate was the baronial manor of Rogel in the ancient Duchy of Lauenburg. A descendant of this family, George Wackerbarth, came in the year 1752 to London, and there founded a sugar refinery, which afterwards descended to his son John Henry Wackerbarth, who died 1818. His son Francis Diedrich, one of a family of ten, was considered by those around him as most suitable for the clerical profession, and accordingly he received an education intended to qualify him for it. In the year 1831 he left the Rev. Dr. Laing's school in Clapham for Cambridge, well grounded in classics and mathematics. He took his degree as B.A. in 1835, and left Cambridge in 1837, having been appointed to the curacy of Peldon, in Essex. A few years later he became a minor canon of Lichfield Cathedral, but as early as 1841 he entirely abandoned the clerical profession and joined the Roman Catholic Church, receiving in his baptism the name of ATHANASIUS.

During this short period of his life, viz., from 1837-41, he developed a remarkable literary activity, which was connected with the gradual approximation of his views to those of the Roman Catholic Church. Works written by him during this period are: "Music and the Anglo-Saxons; being some account of the Anglo-Saxon Orchestra, with remarks on the Church Music of the Nineteenth Century," London, 1837; "The Alleged Connexion between the Church of England and Luther-

anism," London, 1839; "The Revival of Monastic Institutions and their Bearing upon Society," Colchester, 1839; "Tuba Concordiae, or a Letter to the future Prime Minister relative to the Pacification of Ireland and the Condition of the Church," Lichfield, 1841; "The Egyptian Bondage, or a Second Call to Union," London, 1842. It lies beyond the province of this biography to touch, if ever so briefly, on the contents of these works, but we may remark, in passing, that they are characteristic of a prominent feature in Mr. Wackerbarth's disposition, viz., always to express boldly his conviction, and to act without hesitation upon it—nay, even to suffer for the opinions he embraced. It is significant of Mr. Wackerbarth's activity that whilst he was curate of Peldon he appears to have rendered some important assistance in making the necessary calculations for the construction of a railway.

After his secession to the Romish Church he lived chiefly in private life, devoting himself to studies, among which languages took the most prominent place. He thus spent somewhat above ten years in England, for the greater part of which time he resided in Hammersmith. He was Professor of Anglo-Saxon at St. Mary's College, Oscott, and in the year 1849 published his "Beowulf," an epic poem translated into English verse, and printed in London the same year. A critique of this work is to be found in *The Weekly and Monthly Orthodox*, 1849. The same year he became a member of "Kong. Nordisk Oldskriftselskap i Köpenhavn."

In the year 1851 Mr. Wackerbarth undertook a journey to Copenhagen for the study of languages. He paid a visit to Upsala at the same time and found the state of things there so congenial to his tastes that he returned in April of the following year to remain there for life. In 1853 he became naturalised as a Swedish subject. On his first visit to Upsala he had made acquaintance with the director of the Astronomical Observatory, Professor G. Swanberg, and in this way was soon intimately connected with this institution. Astronomy always formed one of his favourite studies. He presented to the Observatory his refractor, a good instrument, though small, and he diligently shared in the astronomical work. Extremely unpretentious as regarded himself, he willingly accepted, in 1860, the office of *Amanuensis* to the Observatory, the only official post which could be offered to him, and which he managed during eighteen years with the greatest accuracy. Among the purely astronomical works which he published during this period are "Om Planeten Neptunus," printed in the Report of the University of Upsala for 1865, and a provisional theory of "Leda," *Nov. acta R. Soc. Sc. Upsaladensis* 1866. He is besides known in the astronomical world through his papers in the *Monthly Notices*. Other scientific works which he published during his sojourn in Sweden are "5-ställiga Logarithmer," with tables for numerical calculations, a book which is both well arranged and much used in

Sweden ; "On the Great Pyramid of Gizeh," originally written for a Swedish periodical, but translated into English, and printed in London, 1871, in which he disputes the opinion that the dimensions of the above-mentioned pyramid contain intentional expressions for certain astronomical constants ; "Hymn of St. Ephrem Syrus," London, 1852, a metrical translation from Syriac to English, and the little pamphlet "Om de gamla Egyptiska läroverken," Upsala, 1871, in which, on the strength of Mr. Chaba's book, "Voyage d'un Egyptien en Syrie, etc.," he makes some remarks respecting the University of Egypt in the time of Ramases the Great, are also monuments of his studies in Eastern literature. But much intelligent work has been executed by Mr. Wackerbarth which has not been published by himself. Wherever he could assist by his knowledge and his perseverance it was a real pleasure to him to do so. One might be sure that the work would be done quickly and well. Thus he has among other things contributed to the Syriac Lexicon, "Thesaurus Syriacus," published by the Rev. R. Payne-Smith, of Oxford, who honourably mentions his name in the second number of this great work.

The above gives but an imperfect idea of the extent of learning Mr. Wackerbarth possessed. He had the most thorough knowledge of the old classical authors. Next in order came the Semitic languages, Anglo-Saxon, and Icelandic. He was also a member of the Literary Society of Iceland ; and besides the usual modern languages, he was well versed in Italian, Swedish, and Danish. He expressed himself with elegance and ease in verse, and in the *Dublin Review Advertiser* he published remarkably able translations of Tegnér, Runeberg, and Wallin. In history he had a vast knowledge, and quite uncommon insights in Church history. He was also a skilful sketcher of architectural objects, and well learned in the theory of musical composition, although few researches on these subjects were printed.

To complete the features of his life we must mention that he became a member of the Royal Society of Science in Upsala in 1858, and in 1866 he was there promoted to be honorary doctor by the Faculty of Philosophy. The same year he was presented with the Order of the "Northern Star." In 1859 he married the daughter of a Swedish rural dean, the Rev. C. O. Ekman, who alone survives him. In the year 1875 he was struck down by a fit, which considerably enfeebled his strong constitution, yet he continued to devote his remaining strength to scientific pursuits till a further attack of illness suddenly terminated his life on June 10, 1884.

Mr. Wackerbarth was, as one can readily see from the above sketch, a man gifted with an astonishing memory, an uncommon power for work, and an especial ability to grasp at once the most important parts of a subject. And without doubt it was a loss to science that the earlier stage of his life was devoted to other pursuits. In his views, as in his studies, he endeavoured

always to place himself as far as possible on the foundation of objective truth, and never spared any labour to attain this object.

For scientific metaphysics he entertained disgust, but still more for the want of clearness and consistency, and often even want of truth by which human work during the development of the great questions of the day is usually impaired. Perhaps this was partly the reason why he gladly sought subjects for his studies as well as foundations for his views far back in the history of the world, a tendency to which finds its expression in the motto (of Rabelais) with which he introduces his first work, "Music and the Anglo-Saxons," "*En quoy coignez-vous la folie antique ? En quoy coignez-vous la sagesse moderne ?*" A stranger to all kinds of dissimulation, he often displayed his views in a striking contrast to the opinions of the present day; yet supported as they were by his prodigious knowledge, and exposed with a particular clearness, they could not fail to compel attention, whilst, at the same time, he usually softened the contrast by an equally brisk and good-natured humour. He was very religious, yet without a trace of bigotry, and to the last moment his heart showed a youthful warmth and sympathy for others. In this way he drew his contemporaries into close communion with himself in spite of differences in rank and views. He was, therefore, also the favourite of the academical youth of Upsala, who elected him honorary member of two of their so-called "Nations," or college societies; at the same time he was highly valued by the elder academical world for his learning and character. He was buried in Upsala churchyard. The inscription on the wreath which the Academy of Sciences in Upsala then laid upon the grave of this noble stranger strikingly portrays his character: "*Varietate disciplinæ et copia omnia cepit, simplicitate animi et liberalitate omnes.*"

He was elected a Fellow of this Society on January 12, 1849.

F. L. E.

ERNST FRIEDRICH WILHELM KLINKERFUES was born at Hofgeismar, in Hesse Cassel, on March 29, 1827; he was the eldest son of the surgeon of a Hessian regiment of Hussars. At an early age he was entrusted to the care of two aunts, who sent him first to the burgher school, and in his fourteenth year to the Gymnasium, at Cassel, where he found a home in the house of his uncle, the late Obergerichtsrath Dedolph. As a boy he is said to have been shy and studious, taking but little part in the ordinary amusements of his schoolfellows, although his affectionate disposition led him all the more keenly to enjoy the vacations spent with his brothers and sisters at their home, which was now at Spangenberg, where his father was professionally employed at the military hospital. Owing to the partiality displayed by Klinkerfues for the natural sciences, he left the Gymnasium for the Polytechnic School while yet in the